REMARKS

Comments on Amendments After Final

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of this application in view of the amendments above and the following comments.

At the outset, Applicants wish to address the showing required under 37 CFR § 1.116(a) regarding why the amendments above are necessary and were not presented earlier. According to MPEP 714.13 (Amendments After Final Rejection or Action, Procedure Followed - Action by Examiner), there are four grounds (cited as (A)-(D)) upon which the examiner may elect not to enter the applicants amendment. Each ground is addressed below:

(A) The claims as amended represent a narrower embodiment of the applicants originally claimed invention (applicants reserve the right to pursue broader scope of the original claims in continuing application) and as such it is believed that the amended claims are now in condition for allowance or at the very least simplifies the issues for appeal.

Claims 27 and 34 have been amended to include the limitations of former claims 29 and 36 respectively which had been indicated to represent allowable subject matter by the examiner in the final rejection.

Claim 33 has been amended to address the examiner's objection.

- (B) It is believed that no new matter has been entered.
- (C) The amended claims represent a narrower embodiment of the applicants invention as claimed prior to the issuance of the examiner's final rejection and as such no new issues are raised which require further consideration or search.
- (D) The amendment does not present any additional claims.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter and consider the amendments above.

Response to Objection

It is believed that the amendment to claim 33 addresses the examiner's objection and that the objection can be withdrawn.

35 U.S.C. 102(b) rejection

Claims 27, 28, 34, 35 and 40-42 were rejected as being anticipated by Pulkinnen (U.S. Patent 4,695,188). In the interest of compact prosecution, claims 27 and 34 have been amended to include the limitations of claims 29 and 36 respectively which was indicated as being allowable and as such this rejection is rendered moot.

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The applicants' reserve the right to pursue the scope of claims 27, 28, 34, 35 and 40-42 prior to the amendment in a divisional application as it is believed that Pulkinnen does not meet the "every element" and "in as complete a detail as the applicants' claim" standard for anticipation.

35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejection

Claims 26, 30-33 and 37-39 were rejected as being obvious over Pulkinnen (U.S. Patent 4,695,188) in view of Dischö et al. (WO 98/24738). With the amendment to claims 27 and 34, it is believed that the balance of this rejection now only applies to claim 26.

In the examiner's "Response to Arguments" regarding Pulkinnen, the examiner stated "The applicant alleges that the structure disclosed by Pulkinnen teaches to keep water in. The examiner fails to see such language in the Pulkinnen reference." The applicants' point out that the title of Pulkinnen's invention is "Lined Rock Cistern or Tunnel". The term "cistem" from The American College Dictionary (1967) is defined as "a reservoir, a tank, or vessel for holding water or other liquid." Providing further evidence that Pulkinnen's invention is directed toward keeping substances in rather than keeping them out is Pulkinnen's own admission on col. 2, lines 29-32 - "Applications of the present invention are pressurized stores of natural gas under pressure, aviation kerosene stores, grain silos and stores and pressure tanks for various toxic substances."

In addition, despite the examiner's recitation of In re Fine and In re Jones, there is no recitation of the examiner's motivation for combining the teachings of Dischö et al. with that of Pulkinnen which comes from the prior art or the state of the art itself, i.e. the motivational statement is a hindsight reconstruction by the examiner.

The standard establishing a prima facie case of obviousness requires a consideration of the invention and references as a whole and determine what would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made having the references before him but without the applicants' claims to provide a roadmap. Simply put, if the applicants claims were not before one of ordinary skill in the art and the Pulkinnen and Discho et al. references were placed before the artisan, what would have been the motivation or direction to combine the references to arrive at the applicants claims?

The applicants' position remains essentially unchanged from the position stated in the response

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dated 8 September 2003 and for the sake of brevity, the arguments presented there are to be considered repeated here.

Authorization for Examiner's Amendment

Given the prior prosecution history of this application, applicants are wary of voluntarily canceling claims. However, if after consideration of the applicants' arguments for claim 26, claim 26 is the only claim which prevents allowability of the remaining claims, the applicants authorize the examiner to cancel claim 26 provided that the reasons for maintaining the rejection over claim 26 is provided in the "Reasons for Allowance".

Closing

Applicants believe that the foregoing constitutes a bona fide response to all outstanding objections and rejections.

Applicants also believe that this application is in condition for allowance. However, should any issue(s) of a minor nature remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned at telephone number (212) 808-0700 so that the issue(s) might be promptly resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

Norris, McLaughlin & Marcus, P.A.

By: Howard C. Lee
Reg. No. 48,104

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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that the foregoing Amendment under 37 CFR § 1.116 (10 pages total) is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date indicated below:

Date: 14 January 2004

By: Agaia Ciùnsha
Agata Glinska

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cirrhosis

220

Ciudad Juarez

cir-rho-sis (& fivels). n. Pathol, a disease of the liver characterized by increase of connective tissue and altera-tion in gross and microscopic make-up. [t. NL. f. ms. Gk. kirthos tawny + -osts -osts] —cir-rhot-ic (sf-

rotrin), ad. (afr'opid'), n. 1. any of the Cirripedia, an order of group of crustaceans, typically having stender legs bearing bristles used in gathering food. —ad. 2. having legs like clirt. 3. pertaining to the Cirripedia. [6. N.L. m. a. Cirripedia, pl.; f. cirri-cinno. + -pidia footed]

cirro-, a combining form of cirrus.

cirro-, a coubining form of cirro-, a coubining form of cirro-, a coubining form of cirro-, in. Alecond. a cloud of high altitude, consisting of small flower balls or lakes, often in rows or ripples.

cirro-set (Al-Cis, al-Cis), adj. 1. baving a cirrus or cirri. 2. resembling ript. 3. Meteod. of the nature of cirrus clouds. Also, cirrons (Al-Cis).

cirro-stra-tus (al-Cista (tas), n. Meteod. a high veilike cloud or sheet of haze, often giving rise to hales around the shu and moon, sometimes very thin and only sightly whitening the bitte of the sky.—clr-ro-stra-tive, adj.

cirro-stra-(sky.og), n., pl. cirri (sky.). 1. Bol. a tendril.

tive, adj.

CIP-FIG (SIT-PS). n., pl. cirri (sIt'l). 1. Edd. a tendril.

2. Zool. a filament or dender appendage serving as a barbel, tentacle, foot, arm, etc. 3. Meteorol, a variety of cloud having a thir, fleery or filamentous appearance, normally occurring at great altitudes and consisting of minute fre crystals. [t. L. curl, tut, france]

CIP-SOIG (SIV/Soid) adj. addition. Variance for Cir-Soid (SIV/Soid) adj.

cir-soid (sûr/soid), edj. varialike; varicose [t. Gk.: ms. Eusericis clis. 2 prefix depoting relative nearness (this side of applied to time as well as space, as in cisalpina. Of citra-. [t. L. prefix use of cis. prep.] cisal-cine (sisal-pin. p/pn. adj. on this (the Roman or south) side of the Alps.

or south) side of the Alps.
cis-st-lan-tic (sis-st lan-tik), adj, on this (the speaker's or witer's) side of the Atlantic.
Cis-cau-ca-sia (sig-khkil/zha, -cha), n, that part of
Caucasia porth of the Caucasia Mountains.

cis-co (s[s/si), n, n! -coen-coe. U.S. any of several species of whitelish of the group Leucichinys, osp. L. aried, the lake berring of the Great Lakes. It. N Amer. Incl.)

species of whiteher of the Great Lakes [t. N Amer. Ind.] cismon-table (string of the Great Lakes [t. N Amer. Ind.] cismon-table (string) of the Great Lakes [t. N Amer. Ind.] cismon-table (string) of the fiver on this (rep. the north) side of the mountains.

(18-De-dame (als/oclas), sisph/dam), adj. on this (the Roman or south) side of the river Po. [t. cis- + m. L. Paddaus of the Po river]

cismold (als/ocla), Geom. — 1. 2 curry having a cusp as the origin and a point of inflection at infinity. — ddj. 2. included bouwers the charave sides of two intersecting curves (opposed to sishoid): a classoid angle. [t. Gk.: m.s. rissocials ry-like]

cist (sist). n. Class. Antig. a box or class. esp. for earlied themsel. [t. L.: s. cista, k. Gk.: m. kists curren? clast (sist), n. a predistoric sepulchral tomb or cakete. [t. Weigh. t. L.: cista, k. Gk.: m. kists curren? clast-a-ceoms (sists/ana). adj. belonging to the Cistardo or rockrose +-acrows]

Cister-cian (sists/ana). adj. belonging to the Cistardo or monic and mins founded in 1098 at Citeaux, near Dijon, France, under the rule of St. lienedict. — adj.

2. belonging to this order.

Cister-cian Rule, an adaptation of the Henredictino Rule stressing contemplation and extreme assecicism. Cister-cian Rule, an adaptation of the Henredicting wave or other liquid. 2. Anal. a reservoir or receptacle of some natural fluid of the body. [M.E., t. L.: a change, der cista body city, intended to keep the inhabitants in subjection, cr. in a sleep, to form a final point of defense. 2. any strongly fartified place; a stronghold. 3. a heavily armored structure on a warship. [c. F.: m. chadelle, t. in. chadelle, der. culia crry]

ci-ta-tion (sta/shan), n. 1, act of citing or quoting. 2. the quoting of a passage, book, action, etc.: a teles-

armored structure on a waranta [t. 2: in trautes, t. It.: in cittadello, der. citta CTTT]

ci. ta. tiloff (sit8/shm). n. 1. act of citing or quoting.

2. the quoting of a passage, book, author, 8tc.; 2 reference to an authority or a precedent. 2, a parage cited; a quotation. 4. mention or enumeration. 5. call or summons, sep. to appear in court. 6. a document containing such a suprement. 7. Mil. mention of a solidior or unit, in orders, usually for gallantry; Presidental citation [MR citacion, t. L.: m.a. citatio] —ci-tactory (si/tatiof*). adi.

cite (si), s.t., elted, citing. 1. to quote a parage, book, author, etc.), esp. as an authority. 2. to mention in support, proof, or confirmation; refer to as an example. 3, to summon efficially or subscriptively to appear in court. 4, to anamon or call; rouse to action: cited to the field of boule. 5. to call to mind; mention: citing my own proise. 3. Attl. to mention (a soldier, unit, etc.) in orders, as for gallantry. (late MR. L. L.: m. citins, free, of cite, cite, move, excite, call) —cit/a-blo, cite/a-blo, cit.

Cithere (sithers), n. kithers [L form of errhand]
cither (sithers), n. cittern. Also, cithere (sithers).
[t. L: m.s. cithers cithers]

1. occupied by a city or cities. citied (1717d), act. 1. occ 2, formed into or bko a city.

cit-fied (sit/fid/), odj. having city habits, fashions.

cit-fied (sit/sid/), ed. faving city habits, habitos, etc.
cit-fied (sit/sid/), ed. faving city habits, habitos,
cit-fied (sit/sid/), ed. faving city habits,
cit-fied to its person owing allegiance to a government and
entitled to its protection. 3. an inhabitant of a city or
town, esn, one entitled to its privileges or franchises.
4. an inhabitant or denized. 5. a civilian (as distinguished from a soldier, police office, exc.). [D1B clistin,
i. AF, var. of Of ricein, dur. cite city] --cit-fieden-csa
(sit/o zon is, -son is), n. fem.
citizen of the world, 5 person who is concerned
about all nations, not just his own.
cit-fieden-ty (sit/o zon thep), ..., n. pl. -rices. citizens
collectively.
(it-fieden-thep) (sit/o zon thep), ..., n. the status of

collectively.

cit-i-zen-ship (sit/s waship/, -sm-), n. the status of a dixon, with its rights and dutics.

cit-ole (sit/s), si wi/), n. cittern.

citra-, a preix synonymous with cis-. [x L. rept. citra, adv. and prep. alin to cix. See che]

citral (sit/si), n. a liquid aldehyde. CsH1:CHO. with a strong lemoniked odor, obtained from the oils of lemon, orange, cic., used in perfamery. [f. citr(ws) + AL(privrex)]

citrate (sit/sit, si/wāx), n. Chem. a salt or cattr of

citrate (storat, nours), n. Chem. a salt or ester of citra acid.

lemon, crance, etc., used in perfumery. [f. crru(us) + AL(DELITER)]
clicrate (civrst., gl/uz). n. Chem. a salt or ester of clure acid.
clicre-come (gl/vio), edj. lemon-yellow; greenish-yellow. [t. L. m. circus of the cliron tree]
clicre acid. (gl/vio), Chem. an acid. CcHaOr-HaO. contained in many fruits, cooccally in limes and lemons. [f. c. L cirus citron tree] etcl-rin (gl/vin), n. Biochem. vitamin P.
clirin (gl/vin), n. Biochem. vitamin P.
clirin (gl/vin), n. Biochem. vitamin P.
clirin (gl/vin), n. L. a pale-yellow; lemon-colored.
—n. 2, a pelucid yellow variety of quartz. [AlE, t. F:
m. cirin, der. L cirus citron tree]
cliron (gl/vin), n. 1. a pale-yellow fruit resembling the lemon but larger and with thicker rind, borne by a small tree or large bush. Citrus medica, allied to the lemon and lima. Z. the tree itself. 3. the find of the fruit, candied or preserved. [t. F. t. It.: m. cirons. der. L cirus ciron tree]
cliron-el-la (gl/vin) n. a fragrant grass. Androposon nardus, of southern Ana. cnitivated as the source of an oil (cironells oil) used in making liniment, perfume and soap. [t. N.]; named from its cironilke odor]
cliron-el-la (gl/vin-pe/si), n. a colories, liquid aldebyde. C. Hr. CHO. found in exsentiol oils, and used as a flavoring usent and in the perfume industry.
Cirum scalen. Cirulino unlgaris, var. ciroidex, used for preserving.
Ciruns wood, 1. the wood of the ciron. 2. the wood of the sandarac.
Cirus scales. 1. Lany tree or shrubs of the rutaceous genus Cirus, which includes the ciron. lepum. limn. orange, grapefroit, etc.—od). 2. Also, ettreus. at the circus scales or important trees or shrubs:
cirus from: [t. L], n. and musical instrument, related to the guitar. having a flat poor-shaped symmibus.
crix and wire strions. Also, etther, eitheren, gittern, kittore. [h. L cilhara crishas and cirrus.]
Barge or important town. 2. U.S. an incorporated municipality. usually soverned by a manyor and a board of aldermen or councilmen.
8. Canda. a municipality of bigh rank, usually based on population.

2. Fig. the enter in charge of the imaginary and com-mercial news. City father, one of the officials and prominent citi-zens of a city. City hall, the administration building of a city govern-

city man. Brit. a financier; a person employed in the banking establishments of the City (def. 6). Also, City

man.

city maninger, a person not publicly elected bus appointed by a city colincil to manago a city.

City of God, heaven.

City of Seven Hills, Rome.

city planning, public control of the physical dovelopment of a city, by means of a plan regulating street layout, locations of buildings, etc.

city-glate (at/nais/), a saveredge state consisting of an autonomous city with its dependencies.

City-glate (at/nais/), a saveredge state consisting of an autonomous city with its dependencies.

City-dad Bo-li-var (atdad/bols-yay), a city in E venerucia: a port on the Orinoco. 31,009 (1950).

Ciu-dad Juá-rez (atdad/ hols-yay), a city in Mexico, acrost the Rio Grunde from H Paco, Torns.

121,912 (act. 1951).

b., blond of, blendad; c., cognate with; d., disloct, disloctal; der., derived fram; f., formed from; g., going back to; m., modification of; r., replacing, u., stem of; t., taken from; f. perhaps. See the full key on ignide cover.

From-Norris McLaughlin & Marcus

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